

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend paragraph [001] as follows:

--Dishwashers are known in which the moist air is vented outwards. This is disadvantageous since the surrounding kitchen furniture is damaged and the method requires a possibly unhygienic supply of air into the dishwasher from outside. Furthermore, dishwashers are known in which the moist air is passed over condensing surfaces on which the moisture condenses before being guided out. This condensation is either passed into the washing container or into special collecting containers. Known from DE 30 21 746 A1 is a method for operating a dishwasher wherein a heat exchanger connected to the washing container in a heat-conducting manner is supplied with cold fresh water during a partial program step "dry". As a result, a condensation surfaces is produced on the inside of the washing container on which the moisture condenses and the condensation formed stays in the washing container. Since the temperature difference between the moist air and the fresh water which has been poured in is relatively small and the quantity of fresh water is continuously heated, the disadvantage arises that the condensation of the moist air takes a long time and the condensation performance is continuously reduced and the duration of the partial program step "dry" is long with a moderate drying result. With the duration of the drying process, the bacteria always present on the washed dishes are stimulated to rapid growth by the moist warm environment. It is thus the object of the present invention to provide a dishwasher which allows the washed dishes located in the washing container to be dried effectively and efficiently from an economic perspective so as to keep the energy consumption as low as possible in spite of a very good drying performance. ~~This object is solved by the dishwasher according to the invention having the features according to claim 1.~~ Advantageous further developments of the present invention are characterised in the ~~dependent claims.~~ The dishwasher according to the invention comprising a washing container and devices for washing dishes using rinsing liquor has a container with a

vaporisable and/or sublimable medium and a sorber with reversibly dehydratable material wherein gas exchange can take place between container and sorber, and the sorber is used on the one hand directly for drying the dishes and on the other hand, the thermal energy used for desorbing the sorber is used to heat the rinsing liquor and/or the dishes located in the washing container. In a preferred embodiment, the container and the sorber are interconnected preferably closably by means of a valve by means of an exchange pipe for gas exchange. The connection between the container and the sorber can advantageously be specifically interrupted to control the absorption of medium by the sorber. Air is preferably guided by means of a fan through an outlet from the washing container into pipes and back into the washing container again through an inlet. In a further embodiment, first the container and then the sorber are arranged in the direction of flow of the air to the pipes to allow heat exchange between the flowing air into the pipes and the medium in the container as well as the reversibly dehydratable material in the sorber. In an additional embodiment, an electric heating element is located in the sorber for desorption of the reversibly dehydratable material. The electric heating element advantageously allows the specific desorption of the reversibly dehydratable material contained in the sorber through heating. Preferably, when the electric heating element is switched off and the valve is opened, the medium, e.g. water can be vaporised or sublimed in the container and the container with medium can be cooled by the latent heat of evaporation, the medium vapour is passed via the exchange pipe to the sorber and the medium vapour is absorbed by the reversible dehydratable material in the sorber whereby the sorber is heated with reversibly dehydratable material. Thus, the container is advantageously cooled and the sorber heated so that on the one hand moisture can be removed from the air by cooling and on the other hand, air can be heated to that the moisture absorption capacity of the air increases. In a further embodiment, when the electric heating element is switched on for desorbing the sorber, the sorber is heated and when the valve is opened, the medium bound in the sorber is evaporated, the medium vapour released in the sorber is passed to the container by means of the exchange pipe and the medium vapour is condensed in the container whereby the container with medium is heated as a result of the latent heat of evaporation. Thus, the medium absorbed

in the sorber can advantageously be returned back into the container in the sense of closed cycle.--